

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, February 23, 2009, 4:30pm, at City Hall in the Lower Level Conference Room.

Present at said meeting were Garnet Peck, Mike Dana, Karen Springer, Mary Nauman, Richard Shockley, and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Lee Booth, Brenda Lorenz, and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Present from the City was Council member Ann Hunt. Absent from the Department was Chris Foley, and Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen were absent.

Garnet convened the Board at 4:32pm.

Garnet thanked the Department for sending flowers in memory of his wife.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the January 26, 2009 meeting. Mike motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Superintendent** – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing.
- Sent around a copy of the Press Release concerning the closing of the ice rink.

**Assistant Superintendent** – Pennie reported on the following:

- Has been working on the Department/City's new web page; entering forms, rental information and pictures. It is to go public around the first of March.
- Cheryl, Chris and I went to the Monon Center in Carmel and met with some of their office personnel to see how RecTrac (the registration software we use) and WebTrac interface. We are looking to use WebTrac so customers will be able to register over the internet. Presently they are not happy with the way WebTrac works. They say it is too hard to navigate. Vermont Systems, the developers of RecTrac/WebTrac, are working on trying to make it more user friendly.
- To date the Mayor has raised \$3,750 for Global Fest. We have set a deadline date of June 1<sup>st</sup> for commitment of donations of \$15,000 to proceed with Global Fest

**Parks** – Lee reported on the following:

- Inspection reports available.
- Finished sealing and organizing the maintenance shop and barn
- A lot of time was spent on looking for a leak at the rink and then salvaging what glycol we could from the return loop
- Unfortunately closing the rink for the season
- Getting all summer equipment ready to roll.

Mike asked how much glycol was in the system when it is full. Lee commented that it holds 2,211 gallons. He was able to salvage a little over 300 gallons, although there still is some in the system.

**Morton Center** – Brenda reported on the following:

- Morton is applying for \$50,000 in Community Development Block Grant funding for some storm windows to help with energy savings. There was some concern we may not meet criteria for receiving a block grant. It was recommended we survey our users

to determine where users lived and what their income and household size was. We surveyed users during February 12-18. After passing out more than 1,000 survey forms, we've received 447 to date. Allen Grady has seen the data collected so far and is checking to see if we would qualify for any funding under the basis of non-residential historic preservation.

- A man from Buckland and Associates has been by Morton to inventory all the equipment for the City of West Lafayette.
- INTAC Management is developing emergency procedures for the city including Morton and is examining room maps and looking at who is using each room.

## **Old Business**

### **Board Enabling Legislation**

John reported that the State Statute does allow for compensation to Board members in the amount of \$300 annually. The Board members are considered part-time employees of the City of West Lafayette and will receive a W-2 Form. If you donate your stipend, you will still be taxed on it, but it is a charitable contribution. If the Board as a whole requests to the City Council that they do not want to receive that stipend, the Council can amend the Salary Ordinance, at which time there would be no money and no tax advantages. It is believed that the Park Board is the only Board in the city that receives a stipend. The Ordinance to establish the Park Board was adopted, July 17, 1967. Mary made a motion to have the City Council waive the Boards compensation from future budgets, in effect as soon as possible. Joe commented that that would require that the current budget would have to be amended. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Karen commented by leaving it up to the individual's choice, Board members would have a say on where they would like that money to go if they chose to donate it.

## **New Business**

### **West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported on the following:**

At our February 4 regular Board meeting, we approved a revised calendar for 2008-09 school year. We had two snow days in January. Dr. Killion sought a waiver from the state to use two – half days and one full day Professional Development days as make up days. He was denied the two – half days and was approved for the full day. Bottom line – Friday May 22 will now be a full day of school, instead of half day. Tuesday, May 26 will be a half day. This will affect Splash Bash. We also approved calendars for 2009/10 and 2010/11.

You are invited to attend a State of the School Address this evening at 6:30 pm at the Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria. There will be presentations on West Lafayette High School Business Week Award – highest academic performing high school in Indiana, school budgeting basics, impact of the state taking over Indiana School Districts' General Fund, Indiana State Teachers' Association efforts to improve funding for public schools and what this all means for West Lafayette Community School Corporation. There will be a Question and Answer session after the presentations.

**Wabash River**

Mike reported there was a public meeting last Tuesday with the consultants that are doing the master plan; they made a public presentation at Ivy Tech. They solicited additional public input in response to their various conceptual proposals. The presentation was well done and well received. It is part of the on going master planning process. Part of the proposal suggested a new pedestrian bridge at Brown Street site; it would allow for a circuit walk using the Myers Bridge.

**Other**

Pennie passed-out a summary of the utility cost for 2008.

Joe distributed a monthly up-date of the projects funded for the year.

Joe also distributed a revised scheduling information packet for Tapawingo Park and the Riverside Skating Center Community Room.

**Pay Claims**

Mike motioned for claims to be paid. Karen seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Adjourn**

Karen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mary seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

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Presiding Officer

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Secretary